

What's at Stake for Wyoming?

Wyoming produces agricultural and wood products that are exported worldwide. In 1997, the state's cash receipts from farming reached \$845 million, and data for 1996 indicate that wood product shipments totaled \$142 million. These industries are important to Wyoming's economy. They create jobs on farms and in mills, and also support jobs in related sectors, such as food processing, transportation, and manufacturing.

Wyoming's agricultural exports were estimated at \$40 million in 1997. The top exports were:

- # live animals and red meats -- \$12.8 million
- # feeds and fodders -- \$12.3 million
- # wheat and products -- \$9.6 million
- # feed grains and products -- \$3.8 million
- # seeds -- \$1.6 million

World demand for agricultural and wood products is increasing, but so is competition among suppliers. If Wyoming's industries are to compete successfully for export opportunities in the 21st century, they need *fair trade* and *fair access* to growing global markets.

Wyoming Benefits from Trade Agreements

Wyoming is already benefitting from a number of trade agreements. While there is still much to be done, examples of new market opportunities include:

- # With nearly three-quarters of its farm receipts coming from cattle, Wyoming benefits from the Uruguay Round with a 38% reduction in the quantity of EU beef receiving export subsidies by 2000. Japan is reducing beef tariffs from 50% to 38.5%. Korea will eliminate its beef import quota by 2001 and reduce its tariffs to 40% by 2004. The Philippines is reducing its beef tariff from 60% to 35%.
- # Under NAFTA, Mexico eliminated its 15% tariff on live slaughter animals, its 20% tariff on U.S. chilled beef, and its 25% tariff on frozen beef. Its 20% tariff on beef offal will be eliminated by 2004. Due to the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement, U.S. beef is now exempt from Canadian duties and volume restrictions.
- # Japan is expanding its 5,530,000 ton tariff-rate quota for wheat by 35,000 tons annually from 1995 to 2000.

